

## **HRIC**

### **Executive Committee**

**12/5/05**

### **Meeting Notes**

**1) Executive Order and Legislation** - It was agreed to send Kathy Keenan language that incorporates a new name for the Council, and that includes several suggestions from the Senate; the Chair will appoint the Exec. Committee who will appoint the Director, the president of UVM is added as a member, the Chancellor is added as a member (although this duplicative of the Federal Act), a representative of Abenaki Self-Help is added as a member, that the Council will "Be a spokesperson for the workforce needs of employers and that the Council will evaluate the effectiveness of the WIBs and report to the Governor and legislature. This same draft could be presented to the Governor's office for use as an Executive Order., although it was agreed not to do so until after the Dec. 19 meeting.

Membership was not discussed at this meeting although several interested individuals have approached Chip.

**2) Next Steps - Meetings** - Pat offered to set up a meeting with the Governor for Tom and whoever we decide to send. The message to the Governor will be to ask for his leadership on the concepts of aligning resources, pushing collaboration as the strategy for meeting the State's workforce needs, and strengthening the voice of employers on workforce issues.

Rick arranged for Chip and himself to meet with the business advisory committee of the Speaker of the House. They subsequently presented the ideas contained in the Workforce Challenge Statement which generated a lively discussion.

**3) Plan Winter HRIC Meeting** - It was agreed that we should build on the results of the November meeting, presenting the key workforce strategies that emerged from that event. Tom asked the members to each "mine" the November meeting reports for three key points that we could compare at our next meeting to develop a list for the Winter HRIC meeting.

Pat offered an alternative to Mr. Harrington's presentation, and Chip described the idea of having VDOL do a data driven presentation using Labor Market Information and Census data to present a picture of Vermont's current and anticipated labor market conditions (quality and quantity) regionally and by sector. We would use this data to draw a picture

of the challenges the State faces and then suggest solutions in each area. This will include data on the six economic sectors identified at our November conference, plus IT skills as a separate element that cuts across all the sectors. The overall objectives will be to highlight the Council as; the voice for employers on workforce issues, the place where employers, educators and State agencies meet on workforce policies, and an organization having a statewide reach and perspective.

Chip subsequently scheduled Room 11 at the Statehouse for February 15 from 1:00 to 4:00. We would send invitations to all Legislators and have folders with regional data available for them at the meeting.

**4) Discussion of DOE "tech ed integration" concept** - Kay explained that DOE plans to release a vision of tech ed academic high school integration, including looking at the regulations and laws that might be impacted. She believes that the vision supports workforce development and that the HRIC will like it. Tom pointed out that the HRIC views tech ed as an important part of the State's workforce development system and has invested considerable effort in pushing for changes in that system that are now beginning to pay off. He pointed out that releasing such a policy document without consulting interested partners and asking for input in advance is a questionable approach. He expressed disappointment that DOE will be releasing this vision first to a group that does not include the voice of employers. Apparently DOE has a vision that will not be released to others until after the first meeting of this group. Chip asked that a copy be provided to the HRIC as soon as possible.